### BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF RONALD FISHER, M.D.

Licensure Applicant

Case No.: 2015-008

NM MEDIOAL B

Respondent.

## NOTICE OF CONTEMPLATED ACTION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that pursuant to provisions of the Uniform Licensing Act ("ULA"), NMSA 1978, §§ 61-1-1, et seq., the New Mexico Medical Board ("the Board") has before it sufficient evidence that, if not rebutted or explained, will justify the Board in denying your application for licensure to practice medicine in the State of New Mexico.

# Nature of the Allegations Against You

This Notice of Contemplated Action is based on the following allegations:

- 1. Respondent seeks licensure in New Mexico to practice as a psychiatrist.

  Respondent has practiced as a psychiatrist in other states, including Pennsylvania.
- 2. Respondent has an approximately fourteen-year history of controlled substance abuse that has resulted in multiple stays at different inpatient and outpatient facilities.
- 3. Respondent has also engaged in inappropriate sexual behavior with patients.

New Mexico Medical Board v. Fisher

Amended Notice of Contemplated Action – Page 1 of 5

- 4. On his application for licensure, Respondent failed to disclose his sexual boundary issues and his sexual addiction treatment history. Respondent also failed to disclose the number of facilities from which he has received treatment.
  - 5. Respondent has not practiced in a clinical setting since 2009.

### Applicable Law

- 6. The above allegations, if proven, would constitute a violation of the following sections of the Medical Practice Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 61-6-1, et seq.:
- a. Section 61-6-15(D)(7), habitual or excessive use of intoxicants or drugs;
- b. Section 61-6-15(D)(8), fraud or misrepresentation in applying for or procuring a license to practice in this state or in connection with applying for or

procuring renewal, including cheating on or attempting to subvert the licensing examinations;

- c. Section 61-6-15(D)(13), manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice as a licensee;
- d. Section 61-6-15(D)(18), conduct likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public;

e. Section 61-6-15(D)(28), sexual contact with a patient or person who has authority to make medical decisions for a patient, other than the spouse of the licensee or applicant; and

f. Section 61-6-15(D)(31), sexual contact with a former mental health patient of the licensee, other than the spouse of the licensee, within one year from the end of treatment.

## **Your Rights**

- 6. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 61-1-4, you have a right to a hearing before the Board concerning these allegations. To exercise that right, you must make a written request to the Board, mailed via certified mail, return receipt requested. You must make that written request within twenty days after your receipt of this Notice of Contemplated Action. If you do not request a hearing within that twenty day period, the Board will take the contemplated action against your license, specifically the imposition of sanctions that could include the revocation or suspension of your license to practice medicine in the State of New Mexico. Action taken by the Board under such circumstances is not subject to judicial review.
- 7. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 61-1-8(A) you have the right to be represented in this proceeding by legal counsel, by a licensed member of your profession, or both. You have the right to present all relevant evidence by means of witnesses, books, papers,

New Mexico Medical Board v. Fisher

<u>Amended Notice of Contemplated Action</u> - Page 3 of 5

documents, and other evidence. You also have the right to examine all opposing witnesses who may appear on any matter relevant to the issues and have subpoenas duces tecum issued prior to the commencement of the hearing in order to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of relevant books, papers, documents, and other evidence. The issuance of such subpoenas after commencement of the hearing rests with the discretion of the Board of its Hearing Officer.

- 8. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 61-1-8(B), you have the right to obtain from the Board the names and addresses of any witnesses who may be called to testify at a hearing and to inspect and copy any documents or items that the Board will or may introduce as evidence at a hearing.
- 9. The issuance of this Notice of Contemplated Action is not a disciplinary event reportable to any data bank, but it is a public document open to public inspection.
- 10. In the event the Board takes against you or your license a final action as described in NMSA 1978, § 61-1-3, you shall bear all costs of the disciplinary proceeding pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 61-1-4(G) unless excused by the Board from such obligation.

Dated July <u>6</u>, 2015.

NEW MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD

Sondra Frank, Executive Director 2055 South Pacheco, #400 Santa Fe, NM 87505 (505)476-7220